

Message Text

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P 172248Z JAN 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 012143

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: CASC(RETEK, SAMUEL)

SUBJECT:W/W SAMUEL RETEK (ISRAELI CITIZEN)

1. DEPARTMENT (SCS) REPRESENTATIVE MET WITH CONG. GILMAN, AND ADMIN. ASST. TO CONG. B. ROSENTHAL, SEVERAL PROMINENT RABBIS AND DR. RUDOFSKY, DCM OF THE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY RE DETENTION OF RETEK, AND POSSIBLE RELEASE ON HUMANITARIAN GROUND, I.E. HEALTH, UNABLE TO PERFORM RELIGIOUS DUTIES AND ILLNESS OF WIFE.

2. ACCORDING TO THE RABBIS, THE INVESTIGATING JUDGE, DR. SCHOEN IS SATISFIED WITH INVESTIGATION AND INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO RELEASE RETEK ON BAIL. THEY BELIEVE THAT, HOWEVER, THE RELEASE IS NOT BEING GRANTED DUE TO PRESSURE ELSEWHERE IN THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT. FURTHER, THEY STATED THAT THEY LEARNED INFORMALLY THAT RETEK COULD POSSIBLY BE RELEASED ON BAIL PROVIDED-STRONG OUTSIDE INTEREST IS DEMONSTRATED. THEY, THEREFORE, REQUESTED CONG. GILMAN AND ROSENTHAL, AND THE STATE DEPT. MAKE STRONG APPEALS TO THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT ON BEHALF OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY FOR RETEK'S RELEASE. IF RELEASE GRANTED THEY ARE WILLING TO

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POST BAIL AS NECESSARY AND QUARANTEE THAT HE WILL NOT

DEPART COUNTRY PRIOR TO TRIAL.

3. DEPT. AWARE EMBASSY CANNOT MAKE FORMAL INQUIRY.
HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF VARIOUS INTERESTED PARTIES,
(SUBJECT'S TWO SON'S ARE U.S. RESIDENT ALIENS) WOULD
APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION OBTAINABLE RE CASE AND WHAT
OTHER ALTERNATIVE MAY BE ADVISABLE. EMBASSY MAY ALSO
WISH TO DISCRETELY CONTACT ISRAELI EMBASSY RE THEIR
EFFORTS IN CASE.

4. ON THE BASIS OF A PETITION SUBMITTED TO THE
EMBASSY OF AUSTRIA BY THE INTERESTED PARTIES, THAT
OFFICE HAS ALSO AGREED TO MAKE INQUIRY TO MINISTRY
OF JUSTICE. KISSINGER

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